

**Technology Title:** HIPERSail: High-Performance Small Spacecraft Solar Sail System

**Affiliation:** NASA Langley Research Center; NASA Ames Research Center

## Assumptions: Technology required to be at TRL 5 by 2021

### Technology Description, Current Performance Metrics, and Performance Goals

*HIPERSail is a lightweight, compact, multi-mission-capable solar sail propulsion system payload compatible with low-cost 12U to 27U CubeSat-class or small ESPA spacecraft. Performance can provide a low-thrust propulsion capability for small spacecraft deep space missions with 3-5 year lifetimes.*

- HIPERSail performance target: *lightness number*,  $\beta$  (ratio of solar radiation pressure force to gravitational force) 0.02 – 0.025
- Deliverables: Mission-capable small spacecraft solar sail system (booms, deployer, sail, sail stowage, sail trim control system) capable of flight ca. 2024.

### Current TRL

3

**TRL By  
May 2021**

5-6

### Industry State of the Art Technology Performance

- Current state-of-the-art:  $\beta = 0.008-0.009$  (ref: NEA Scout).
- STMD-DLR DCB high-strain composite booms currently at TRL 3. *Booms and deployment mechanisms to be at TRL 5 by project end in 2020.*
- 6U-scale high-strain composite booms solar sail LEO risk reduction flight in formulation under HEOMD/AES for launch ca. 2020. *DCB-composites-based solar sail system will be at TRL 6.*
- *HIPERSail performance will be a 2.5x - 3x improvement over NEA Scout solar sail technology state-of-the-art (SoA).*

### Technology Development Challenges to Meet TRL Goal

- Scaleability: Scale-up of current deployable composite booms to 14-16.5 m lengths. *Being addressed under ongoing STMD Deployable Composite Booms project (DCB) with the German Aerospace Center (DLR).*
- Packageability: System must stow within existing or anticipated rideshare-class small spacecraft form factors with volume for avionics and instrument payloads. *To be addressed during proposed AES Advanced Composites-Based Solar Sail System (ACS3) sub-scale flight demonstration, ca. 2020.*
- Sub-scale system validation: 40-50% scale zero-g flight validation of solar sail and deployment system. *To be addressed during ACS3 LEO flight, ca. 2020.*

### Potential HPD Science Application ( Optional )

Near-term mission (2024):

- Low-cost Sun-Earth sub-L1/L5 spacecraft for heliophysics science, solar weather modeling and early warning ( $\beta > 0.02$  required).
- Can be demonstrated as part of TechDemo mission.

Potential TechDemo compatible instruments:

- Magnetometer (e.g., MAGIC)
- Plasma detector (e.g., SWAN, ChaPS).

Medium-term missions (2024-2030):

- Low-cost multi-spacecraft constellations also possible (e.g., L1 Diamond).

### Contact Information

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### Additional Comments

Potential for non-SMD partnerships:

- HEOMD/Advanced Exploration Systems – space weather early warning for cislunar human operations.
- NOAA/SWPC, DoD - space weather early-warning, modeling and prediction.



# **HIPERSail: High-Performance Small Spacecraft Solar Sail System** *Technology Overview*

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**Jeannette Heiligers**  
*TU Delft*

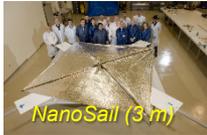
May 30th, 2018

National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
[www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov)

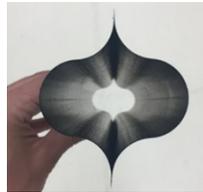
# Small Spacecraft Composites-Based Solar Sail Systems Technology Development Roadmap



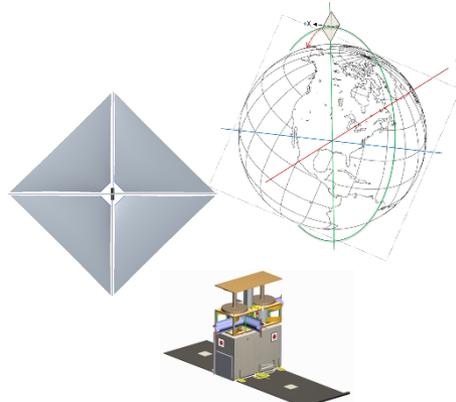
## 'TRAC' metallic boom solar sails (SoA)



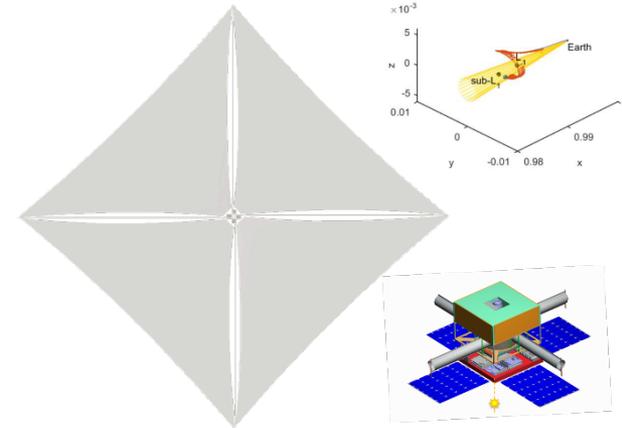
## Deployable Composites Boom Technology (DCB)



## 9-m sub-scale LEO deployment demonstration (ACS3)



## 20-m-class mission-capable solar sail system (HiPERSail)



Metallic TRAC boom solar sail architectures:

★ NanoSail-D2

★ LightSail A

★ NEA Scout

Roadmap addresses solar sail technology gap...

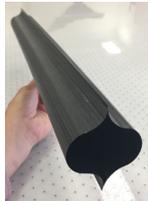
2010

2015

2020

2025

2030



TRL 3

Deployable Composite Booms (DCB)

Zero-g parabolic flight boom deployment demo (w/DLR)

Advanced Composites-Based Solar Sail (ACS3)

LEO sub-scale sail deployment demo

HiPERSail (as proposed)

TRL 5-6

Opportunity for early flight in 2024 under SALMON-3 HPD TechDemo AO

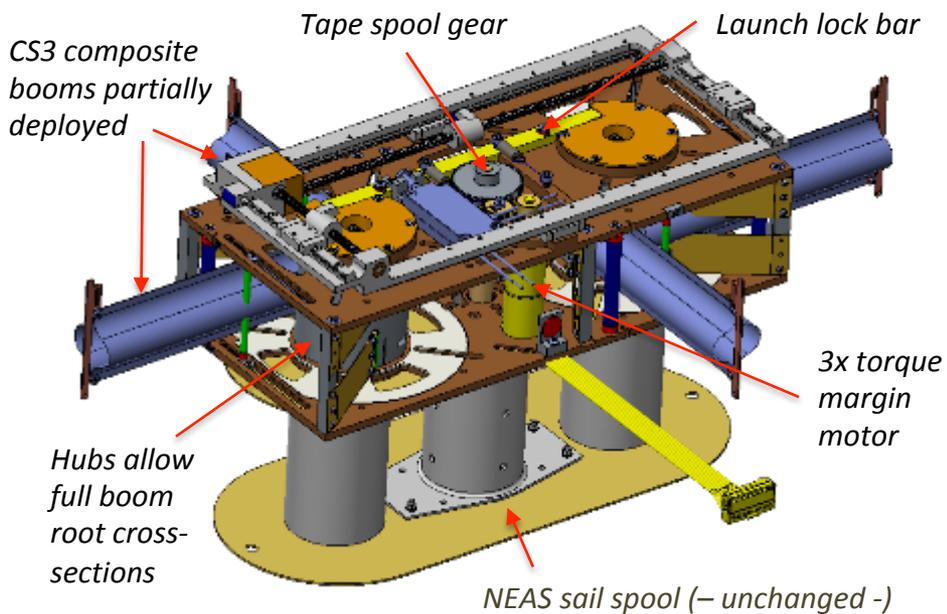
- FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY -



# AES Composites-Based Solar Sail System (CS3) ca. 2016



CS3 EDU with packaged solar sail  
1.2 kg lighter than NEAS sail system



- CS3 unit is a drop-in replacement for NEAS metallic TRAC boom deployer. - 1.2 kg lighter than NEAS -
- CS3 deployer based on flight-qualified DLR/Surrey DeorbitSail deployer.
  - Boom deployment via tape reel “puller” system instead of gear-driven “pusher”.
    - Minimizes risks of boom blooming, boom root buckling and potential jamming during deployment.
- Pin pusher/puller locks spools & motor gears for launch and after deployment.
- CS3 EDU validated in ground deployment testing, launch vibrations, and thermal vacuum testing.



CS3 ground deployment test video

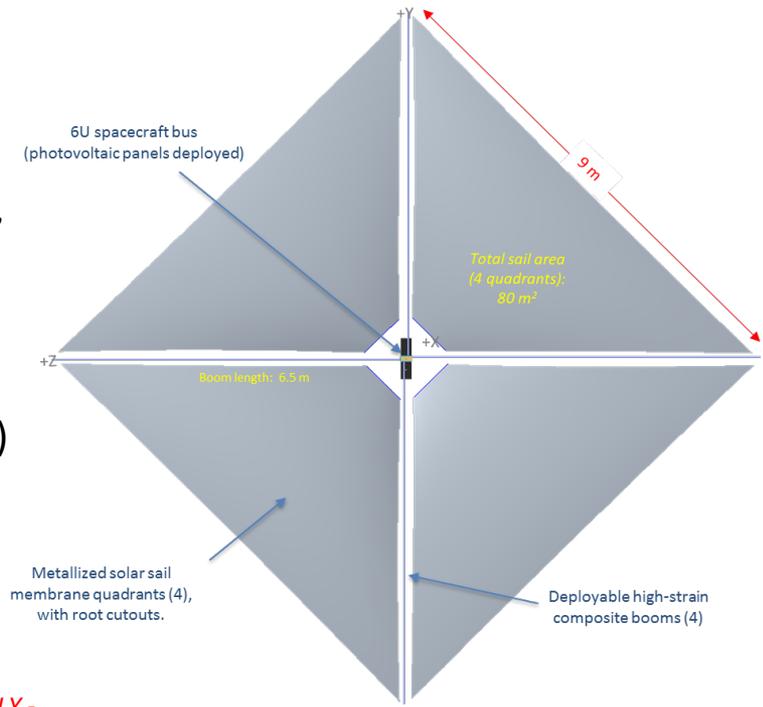
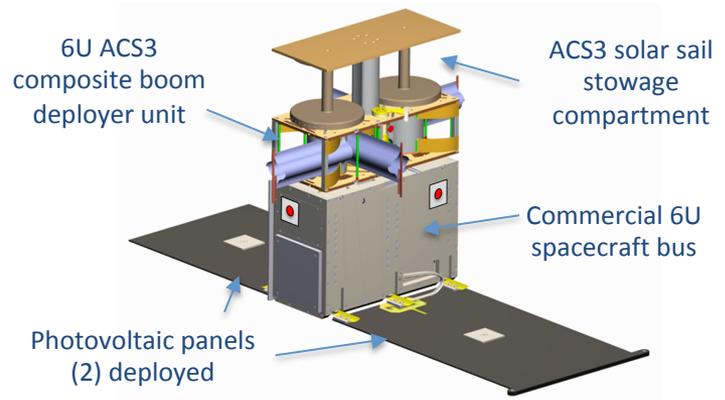




# Advanced Composites-Based Solar Sail (ACS3) LEO Risk Reduction Mission

AES, 2018 (proposed)

- **Concept:** Low-cost sub-scale (40-50%) composites-based solar sail system deployment validation experiment in LEO.
  - Partnership between LaRC, ARC, Santa Clara University.
  - Leverages STMD DCB project for booms.
- **LaRC** to deliver 6U-compatible ACS3 solar sail system payload.
  - 6U ACS3 design allows deployment testing of two unique composite boom designs for future 12U-27U class solar sail missions.
  - Two (2) “strong” composite booms
    - $[\pm 45/0-90]$  laminate
  - Two (2) “softer” composite booms
    - $[\pm 45/0]$  laminate
- **ARC** to oversee bus procurement, ACS3 payload avionics, including deployment validation cameras, and FSW.
  - Turnkey commercial 6U CubeSat bus to be used.
- **Santa Clara University Robotic Systems Lab** to provide CubeSat operations support.
- **STMD/GCDP** Deployable Composite Booms project (DCB) technology for booms.
- **CSLI**-provided launch opportunity anticipated.
  - 500 km LEO minimum altitude required.
    - No inclination constraint.
  - Polar LEO preferred, but not required.



# Small Satellite Solar Sail Technology Trends



Ref: Macdonald, McInnes, 2011

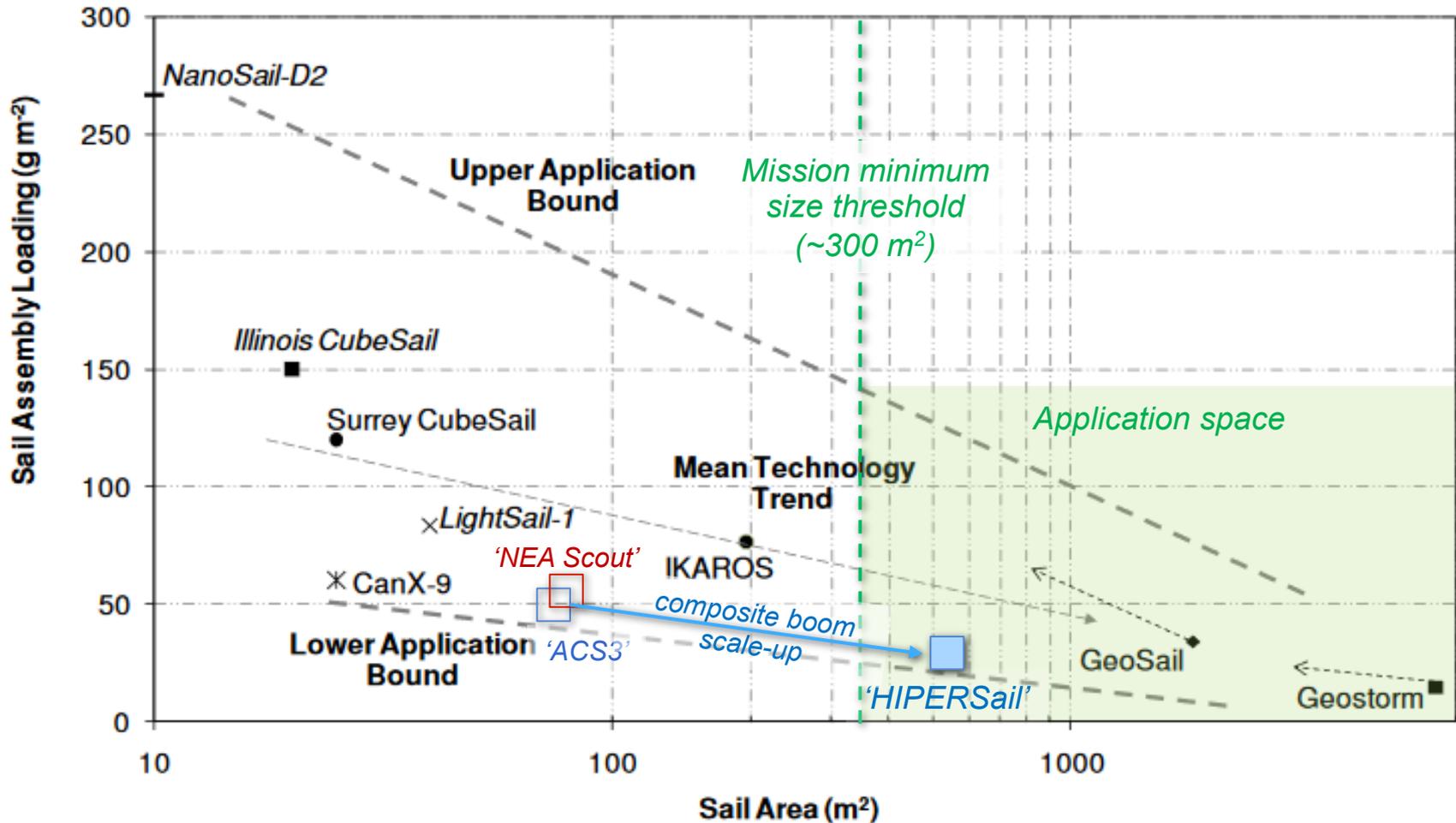
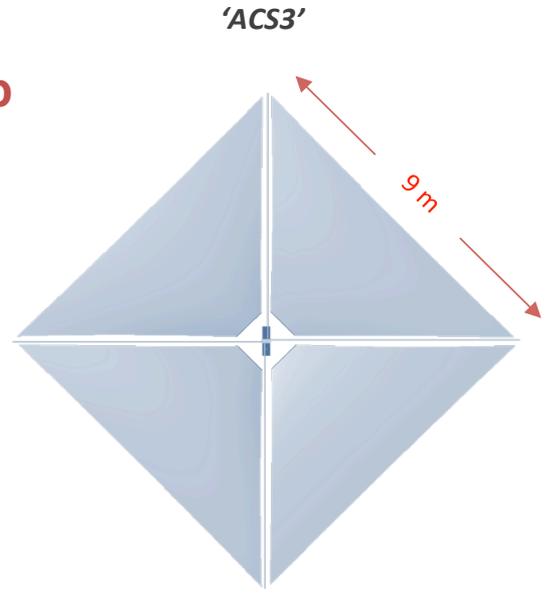
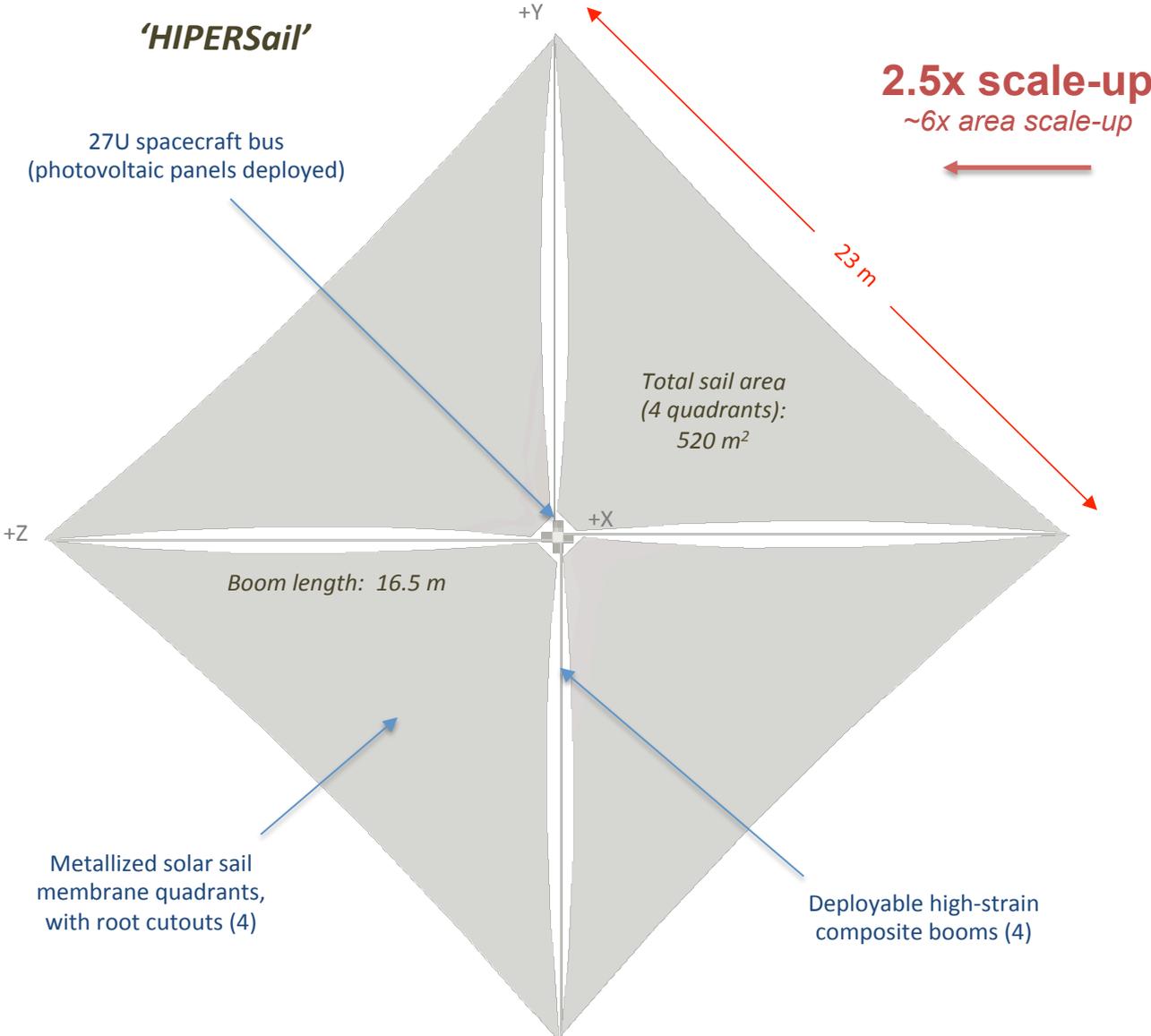


Fig. 5 CubeSat Solar Sail design space. Note, labels in italics indicate assumptions were used to gain sail assembly loading value due to the absence of data within the open literature.



# 'HIPERSail' and 'ACS3' Size Comparison



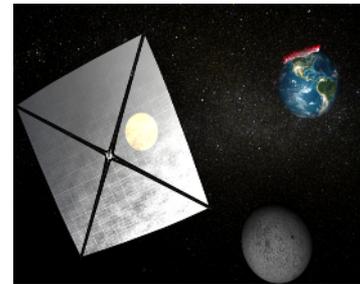
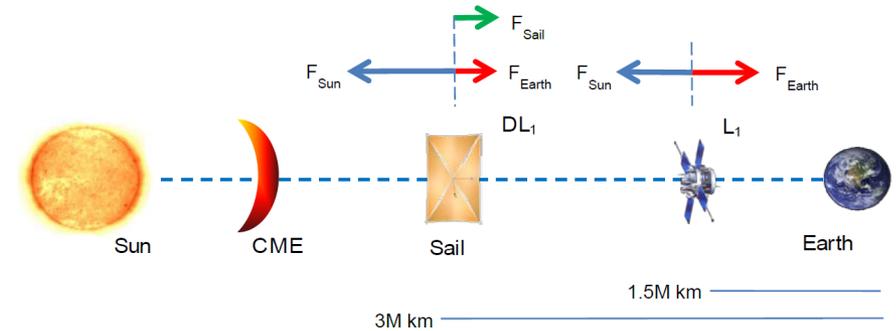
| 27U 'HIPERSail' Characteristics                                |       |
|--|-------|
| Sail system mass [kg]  | 14.8  |
| Total space vehicle mass, including contingency [kg]           | 30    |
| EOL power, 1 AU [W]  | 50+   |
| Total sail area [m <sup>2</sup> ]                              | 520   |
| Lightness number, $\beta$ [-]                                  | 0.025 |
| Characteristic acceleration, $a_c$ , 1 AU [mm/s <sup>2</sup> ] | 0.15  |

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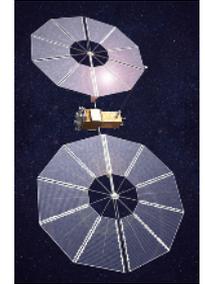
# Solar Sails are an enabling technology for enhanced space weather early warning missions



- Permits station-keeping at sub-L1 locations to increase CME warning times.
  - No fuel constraint on operations.
- Constant thrust station keeping operations are not feasible using chemical propulsion.
- Station keeping operations possible using SEP, but for limited durations (< 5 years).
- For constant thrust missions durations more than 5 years (e.g., ACE at 10 years) solar sails are an enabling propulsion technology.



vs.



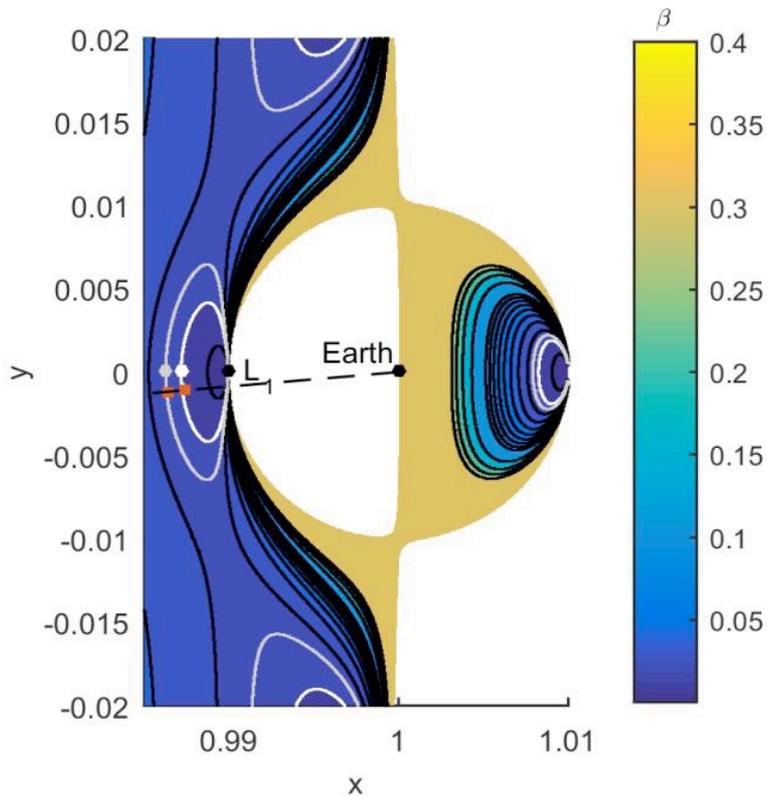
| Mission duration (yrs) | Effective $\Delta v$ ( $\text{ms}^{-1}$ ) | Chemical mass ratio | SEP mass ratio |
|------------------------|---|---------------------|----------------|
| 1                      | 9,467                                     | 0.05                | 0.72           |
| 2                      | 18,935                                    | 0.002               | 0.53           |
| 5                      | 47,336                                    | -                   | 0.20           |
| 10                     | 94,673                                    | -                   | 0.04           |

Ref: McInnes, C., et al., "Gossamer Roadmap Technology Reference Study for a Sub-L1 Space Weather Mission," in: Macdonald, M. (Ed.), *Advances in Solar Sailing*, pp. 227-242, Springer-Praxis, Springer Berlin Heidelberg, 2014.

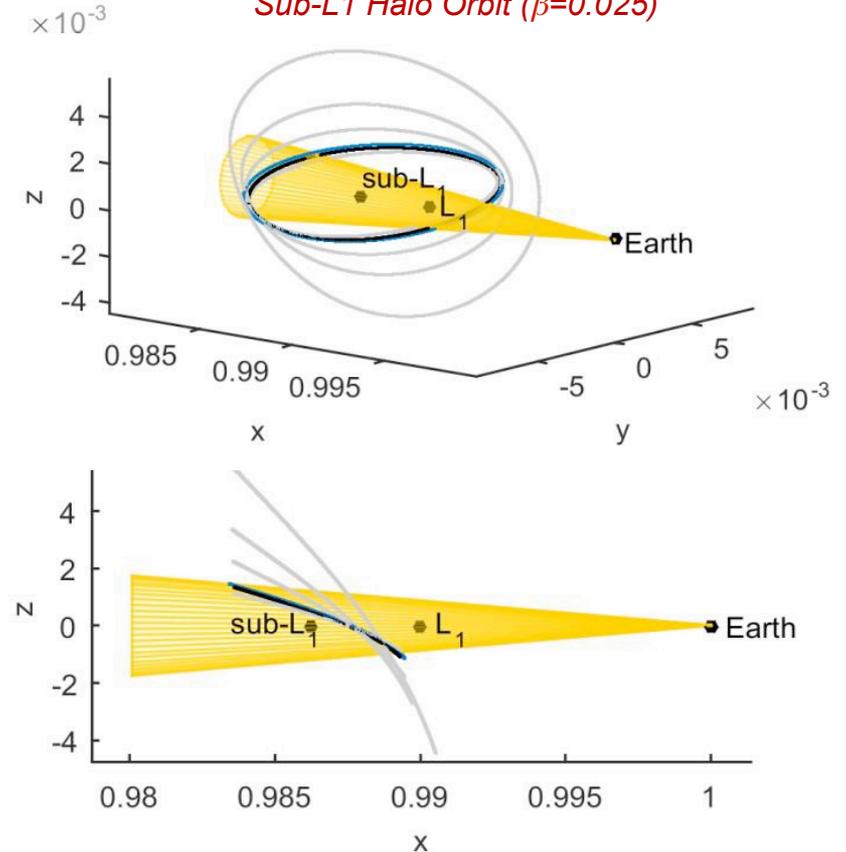
# Mission Example: ACS3 Sun-Earth Sub-L1 Space Solar Weather Early Warning Sentinel [Heiligers, Wilkie, 2015]



*Achievable Artificial Lagrange Point (ALP) Contours*



*Sub-L1 Halo Orbit ( $\beta=0.025$ )*



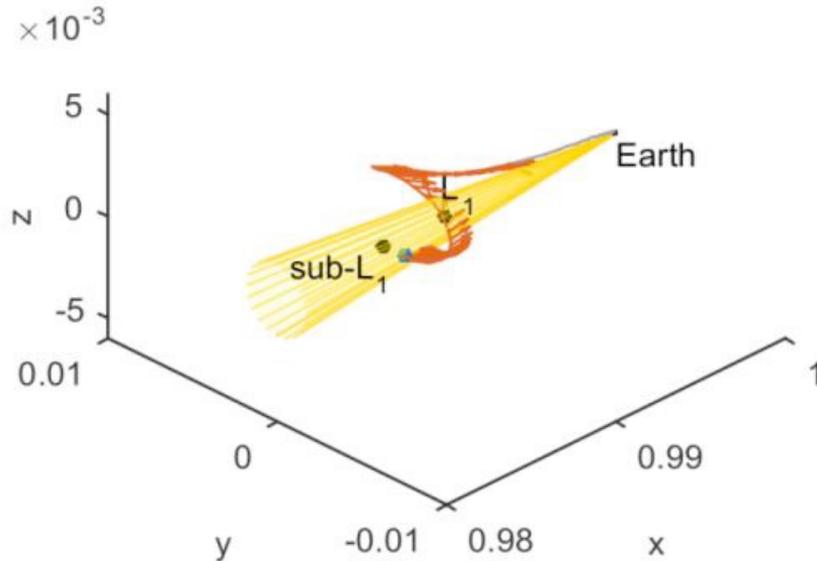
*Warning Time Increase for 5°SEZ Sub-L1 ALP*

|                 | x-position<br>AEP | y-position<br>AEP | Distance from<br>Earth, km | Increase in warning<br>time over $L_1$ |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|--|
| $\beta = 0.02$  | 0.98729           | -0.00108          | 1,907,476                  | 1.274                                  |
| $\beta = 0.025$ | 0.98636           | -0.00116          | 2,047,473                  | 1.367                                  |

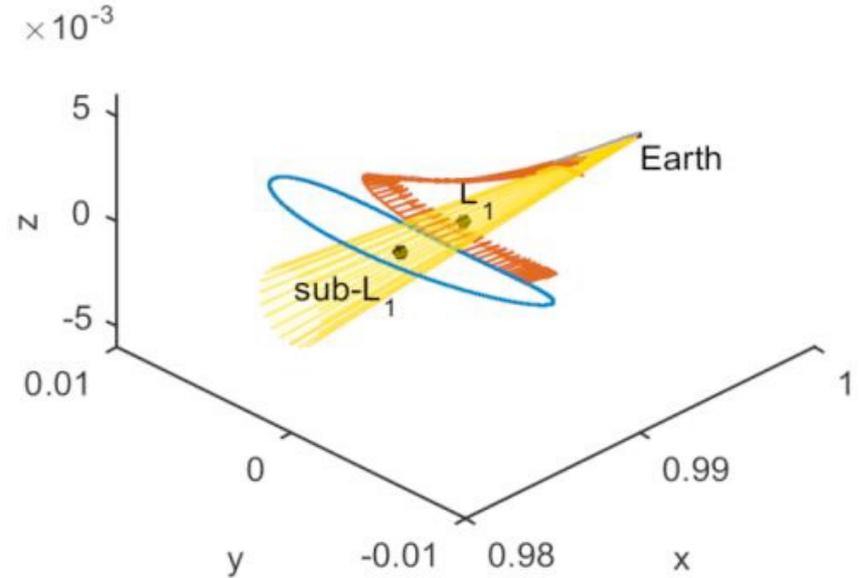
# Optimal Solar Sailing Transfers to Sub-L1 Targets



*5°SEZ Sub-L1 ALP*



*Sub-L1 Halo Orbit*

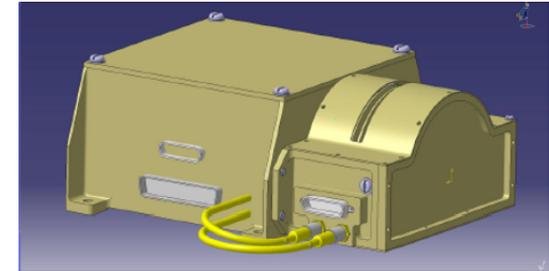


|                            | $\beta = 0.02$     |                       | $\beta = 0.025$    |                       |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
|                            | 5 deg trailing AEP | Solar sail halo orbit | 5 deg trailing AEP | Solar sail halo orbit |
| $\Delta V_{GTO}$ , m/s     | 747.8              | 747.5                 | 746.9              | 747.7                 |
| <b>Transfer time, days</b> |                    |                       |                    |                       |
| - Ballistic phase          | 7.1                | 4.4                   | 7.2                | 4.9                   |
| - Solar sail phase         | 191.3              | 129.1                 | 185.7              | 125.8                 |
| - Total                    | <b>198.4</b>       | <b>133.5</b>          | <b>192.8</b>       | <b>130.7</b>          |

# Potential HIPERSail-Compatible Space Weather Early Warning Instruments (examples)



- SWAN (*Solar Wind ANalyzer*)
  - High voltage electrostatic optic measuring solar wind ions
  - Built by Mullard Space Science Laboratory, University College London
  - Based on ChaPS (Charged Particle Spectrometer) on TechDemoSat
- MAGIC (*MAGnetometer from Imperial College*)
  - Magnetometer measuring interplanetary magnetic field and solar wind
  - Sensitivity better than 1 nT over 60 s
  - Flown on CINEMA (UC Berkeley Cubesat)
- Auxilliary S-Band Communications System (option)
  - Extended mission optional package
  - Would permit SSRRM instrument suite to be integrated into existing NOAA real-time space weather monitoring system.



**SWAN**

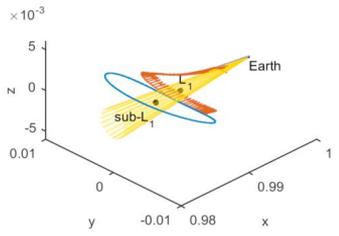
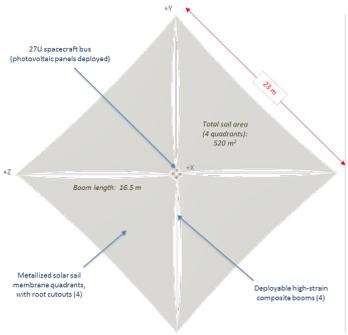
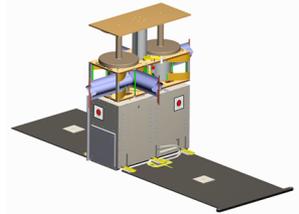
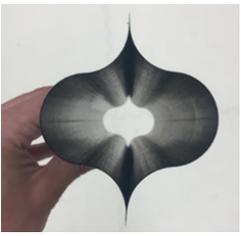


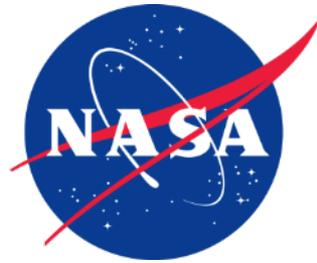
CINEMA MAGIC flight model



# HIPERSail Technology Summary

- Deployable Composite Booms (DCB), deep space CubeSat bus systems, and Advanced Composites-Based Solar Sail System (ACS3) technology to be at appropriate readiness levels for tech demo mission ca. FY21.
  - Avionics systems to be at TRL 9 after InSight (MarCO) and EM-1 (BioSentinel, NEA Scout) missions.
  - STMD/GCDP 14-16.5 m booms at TRL 5 in FY20.
  - Sail system at TRL 6 after proposed 6U ACS3 LEO flight experiment, ca. FY20.
- ACS3 on path to mission capable full-scale solar sail system.
  - Validates *HIPERSail* deployment approach in space environment.
  - Sufficiently large (40% of full-scale) to enable scale-up to full *HIPERSail* mission size.
- Heliophysics TechDemo ideal opportunity to demonstrate mission capability of composites-based small spacecraft solar sail technology.
  - Preliminary analysis indicates Sun-Earth sub-L1 solar sailing space weather early warning tech demo mission feasible with *HIPERSail*.
    - Launch time frame: ca. 2024 (ESPA rideshare on IMAP)
    - Flight time: 5-7 months.





# Heliophysics TechDemo SALMON-3 PEA [Released: May 01, 2018]



- <https://nspires.nasaprs.com/external/solicitations/summary!init.do?solId=%7B847150E1-67CC-B2B6-C6B6-EA32884560E2%7D&path=open>
- Principal Investigator (PI)-led investigations in SMD's Heliophysics programs under a not-to-exceed cost cap.
- Evaluation and down-selection for flight via two-step competitive process:
  1. No more than three TechDemo Investigations to be selected for nine-month, \$400K (FY2019) Phase A concept studies.
  2. At least one TechDemo investigation will be selected to continue into Phase B and subsequent mission phases.
- A TechDemo investigation proposed PI-Managed Mission Cost (PIMMC), including all mission phases, is expected to range from **\$25M-\$65M**.
  - Multiple missions may be selected if their total cost remains below the overall PEA cost cap of \$65M.
- **TechDemo investigations must be proposed for flight as a secondary payload with the IMAP mission (launch: ca. 2024)**
  - Up to two ports on an EELV Secondary Payload Adapter (ESPA) will be provided to accommodate this investigation.
  - The ESPA is intended to be an unpowered, non-propulsive, ESPA Grande ring.
  - The TechDemo SCM(s) will be released from the ESPA and/or the IMAP EELV after IMAP injection into a transfer orbit to the Earth-Sun L1 Lagrangian point.

# Heliophysics TechDemo SALMON-3 PEA (continued)



- Timeframe to initiate a future research mission achieving the science advancements enabled by the TechDemo investigation must be technically and scientifically plausible **during the next 15 years**.
  - Must advance TRL to 5+ to support inclusion in future Heliophysics Decadal Study.
  - **Science advancements can also be achieved within the TechDemo investigation itself.**
    - Not a factor in the evaluation criteria (although, ...)
- The projects are designated as **Category 3**
  - Ref: NPR 7120.5E, *NASA Space Flight Program and Project Management Requirements*.
- The payloads are designated as **Class D (Tailored)**.
  - Refs: NPR 8705.4, and *NASA Science Mission (SMD) Class-D Tailoring/Streamlining Decision Memorandum*, <https://soma.larc.nasa.gov/standardao/ClassD.html>
- Proposal timeline:
  - Comments due on this Draft SALMON-3 PEA ... June 1, 2018
  - Release of Final SALMON-3 PEA ..... July 9, 2018 (target)
  - Pre-proposal conference ..... 2-3 weeks after Final PEA release
  - Mandatory Notification Proposals ..... 30 days after Final PEA release
  - Proposals due ..... 90 days after Final PEA release